DAILY REPORT

Latin America

Vol VI No 083 *28 April 1983*

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NOBELIST NOTES 'ATMOSPHERE OF WAR' AGAINST CHILE

PY261645 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2014 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Salta, Argentina, 25 Apr (EFE) -- Adolfo Perez Esquivel, 1981 Nobel Peace Prize winner, has reported that there is a "clear atmosphere of war" in southern Argentina and that it is apparently directed against Chile.

Talking to the morning paper EL TRIBUNO of Salta Province, on the Chilean and Bolivian border in northern Argentina, Perez Esquivel explained that modern military equipment is being transported to the southern zone.

He said that some 145 tanks that were recently purchased from Australia, combat planes of different kinds, frigates, submarines and weapons "of great offensive power" have been deployed in that region.

In the opinion of Perez Esquivel, the deployment is targeted at Chile. He remarked that "there is a clear atmosphere of war in southern Argentina."

The Nobel Prize winner ruled out "a new assault on the Malvinas" because, as he put it, "the islands are an unassailable stronghold." Perez Esquivel reported that he knows that the British even have a "nuclear arsenal" on the islands.

BIGNONE TO ATTEND UNCTAD MEETING IN BELGRADE

PY271724 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1423 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Apr (DYN) -- President Bignone informed the cabinet today that he will travel to Belgrade, Yugoslavia, on 5 June to attend the sixth session of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

This information was disclosed by presidential spokesman Eduardo Maschwitz, who noted that President Bignone will stay in Belgrade until 10 June in keeping with point three of the final resolution of the meeting of ministers of the Group of 77, which was held in March in Buenos Aires. Point three establishes that the Argentine president should attend the UNCTAD meeting to present the document entitled "Buenos Aires Initiatives."

ARMY COMMANDER DENIES PACT WITH LABOR

PY272339 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Army Commander in Chief Cristino Nicolaides today denied claims of the existence of a military-labor pact. However, he admitted that high-ranking officers of the Army had contacted several political and labor leaders but made it clear that this whole matter is under the direct and total responsibility of the Army commander in chief.

During a talk with journalists at Army headquarters at noon today, General Nicolaides explained that what was done by those officers has nothing to do with an agreement or pact, nor does it point to an understanding among sectors, because that would not only be at odds with, but would be repugnant to the thinking of the institution, as has already been publicly declared.

General Nicolaides stated that the Army has repeatedly expressed in its contacts with the public that the institution is firmly determined to arrive at a democratic solution, acting with absolute impartiality and detachment, so as to permit freedom of action to all political groups.

He noted that the Army command has already made public that its first priority for this year is the completion of the country's institutionalization by the first months of the coming year, supporting the actions of the government to that effect.

General Nicolaides added that the Army, in the exercise of its political responsibility, has made and will continue to make contacts with all the representative sectors of the nation in order to assess the national reality and to hear opinions so that the nation may arrive at an adequate solution under the best possible conditions.

The Army commander voiced his conviction that only strict compliance with the National Constitution will guarantee the stability of the political and institutional scheme that will be set in motion on 30 January 1984, without the need for agreements or pacts of any kind.

He stressed that making groundless statements serves no good purpose at a time when the Argentine Army is determined to adhere to the timetable set for the country's institutionalization.

Reaction to Pact Charges

PY280148 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 27 Apr 83 pp 1, 18

[Excerpt] The charges made by Radical Civic Union [UCR] presidential candidate Raul Alfonsin that the military and the unions are drafting a pact and that three generals holding key army posts are involved has had a great impact in all national political circles.

First, Interior Minister Llamil Reston and later Army Commander Cristino Nicolaides denied persistent rumors that the military and old Peronist structures were drafting a basis for a future nonaggression pact.

The rumors, which were denied by both Reston and Nicolaides, circulated not only within political circles -- particularly within the UCR -- but also within navy circles.

The seriousness of Alfonsin's statement, which was discussed yesterday in several national circles, lies not only in the fact that his statement was issued after the denials issued by Reston and Nicolaides, but in the fact that, for the first time, a presidential candidate specifically charges that three generals are allegedly involved in drafting a pact with the union sector: Alfonsin mentioned Lt General Nicolaides; Gen Juan Carlos Trimarco, the commander of I Corp, and Gen Jorge Suarez Nelson, general under secretary of the Army.

The fact that a presidential candidates like Alfonsin has mentioned General Suarez Nelson in the way he did has drawn the attention of all political observers to a military personality who, until now, was closely followed only by the main union leaders, the official commissions of the three branches of the armed forces in charge of union affairs, and particularly by the Radical Party leadership

In fact, the Radicals were the first ones to note that as of some time ago Suarez Nelson had become the real builder of a policy aimed at reorganizing unions through the integration of normalizing commissions in unions.

Some political and military sectors believe that the procedures that are in force for normalizing the development of union activity may be one of the mechanisms through which the much-discussed and much-denied pact between unions and the military can be acheived. Amendments to the union associations and social works law would follow later.

There are indications that the Navy -- it seems that the cycle that opened with the long leadership of Admiral Massera is definitely over -- views with concern any project aimed at restoring the political power of the old union leadership. Alfonsin's charges were followed by similar charges issued by Fernando de la Rua, the other UCR presidential candidate. However, last night De la Rua was more careful in choosing his words.

But in private, Alfonsin goes to the extreme of noting that the army leadership has already taken sides in the elections and that it is supporting Peronism.

One of the main leaders of the CGT-Azopardo told LA NACION that Alfonsin "has dealt a harsh blow; we do not know what he will gain by it, but it is obvious that he has not done us any favors." Another union leader told this newspaper that it was a cunning and important move.

It is precisely the CGT-Azopardo leadership that is closely studying all the steps that are being taken to achieve the normalization of unions. The members of the CGT-Azopardo group note that of the three generals that were mentioned by Alfonsin, Trimarco is the one who is acting in a more equitable manner with the two CGT's -- one is the CGT-Azopardo, the other is the CGT-RA [CGT-Republic of Argentina], which is headed by Saul Ubaldini. However, they are critical of Nicolaides and Suarez Nelson.

HEAVY RAINS CAUSE $7 MILLION LOSS IN SANTA FE

PY271903 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1307 27 Apr 83

[Text] Santa Fe, 27 Apr (TELAM) -- According to final estimates by the technical agencies of the provincial government, 435,000 hectares of land have been affected by floods in the wake of heavy rains in the central, western and northeastern zones of the province. The evaluation was made after an extensive tour by technicians from the Santa Fe Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock.

The areas most seriously affected by the floods are San Cristobal, Castellanos, Las Colonias, San Justo and 9 de Julio Departments.

Sorghum crops have been the hardest hit. Plowing and sowing will be delayed and the milk output will drop because pastures have also been affected. Losses are estimated at $7 million. A state of national and provincial emergency has been declared in the affected areas.

LA PAZ BLOCKADE LIFTED, FUEL SUPPLY NORMAL

PY272002 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Bolivian Government Oil Deposits reported today that with the lifting of road blockades, La Paz has again been supplied with fuel following the shortage during the past few days.

Normal Work Schedule Resumed

PY271956 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Private and public institutions returned to the normal split work schedule today in view of the complete normalization of the public transport service. This report was released by the Labor and Labor Development Ministry. Yesterday, this ministry issued a resolution establishing a continuous workday schedule due to the shortage of fuel, which paralyzed public transport service throughout the country.

Energy Minister's Earlier Report

PY252107 La Paz Radio Illimani in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Energy Minister Jorge Medina Pinedo has stated that the strike that the La Paz oil workers union started this morning will probably be settled within a few hours.

Interviewed by Radio Illimani, the energy minister said he will continue to insist that talks be held, which he has been promoting since last Saturday, with the objective of overcoming the disagreement that has arisen between the La Paz oil workers union and YPFB [Bolivian Government Oil Deposits] Manager Enrique Mariaca.

The energy minister said that all possible means are being undertaken so that there will be no shortage of liquid gas in La Paz. He denied having any responsibility for the shortage of gas and noted that the blockade of the Oruro road is the main factor blocking the gas supply to La Paz. The minister said that there are tank trucks, railroad tank cars and trucks filled with liquid gas that are blocked at (Tapacamalla). He said that once this problem is solved those shipments will be taken to La Paz.

PETROLEUM WORKERS CALL OFF PLANNED STRIKE

PY271614 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Through an official communique, the Petroleum Workers Federation of Bolivia has reported the suspension of the general strike scheduled for the next few hours. The communique states that meetings are being held among secretaries general aimed at achieving a solution to the proposal for the creation of the national gas council.

MEAT SUPPLY CRISIS COUNTINUES AFFECTING LA PAZ

PY271700 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The crisis in the supply of meat has now been affecting La Paz for some 30 days. In remarks to Radio Panamericana, the president of El Beni cattle grazers said he regrets this situation.

He said that government represnetatives do not seem to know what they can do, noting that problems should not be postponed, but resolved. He also lamented that the government has adopted discriminatory measures in establishing meat prices.

VICE PRESIDENT ON OVERCOMING CURRENT PROBLEMS

PY271646 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Upon leaving his office at the National Congress this afternoon, Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora stated that the democratic process is undergoing an extremely difficult time and that its preservation basically depends on the Bolivians. He added that it is the duty of all Bolivians to safeguard and preserve the liberties which were reinstated thanks to the struggle of the Bolivian people.

[Begin Paz recording] I think we are going to need, to a greater or lesser extent, all the country's constitutional bodies, the executive branch, Congress, the judicial branch as well as the other organizations. We will have to show great maturity at all levels to overcome this difficult moment. I think the difficulties within the peasants movement and the miners federation, for example, simply reveal a people that desires a definite democracy which will yield the concrete benefits for which it has struggled. In this regard, we require that these organizations as well as the executive branch and Congress adopt a mature attitude so as to achieve this desired democracy. The Bolivian people will be served by this democracy and their daily problems will be solved by it. [end recording]

In answering a question posed by journalists, the vice president dismissed any possibility of President Siles Zuazo resigning his post as president. He pointed out that the current process requires the participation and cooperation of the leader of the Democratic and Popular Unity, Hernan Siles Zuazo.

[Begin Paz recording] None at all, none at all, and if that rumor is really being spread, it is a completely groundless rumor. In my opinion, the president's resignation would undermine the democratic process. I believe that the president's actions and his presence in this process are very important for things to run smoothly. [end recording]

The vice president then pointed out that the mineworkers' demand for a more than 50 percent participation in the co-management is not a plot against the process since the miners were the ones who tenaciously struggled so that democracy could be reinstated in the country. This is what he said:

[Begin recording] What they have done, and this is stated in their reports, is to guarantee the survival of the places where they work, guarantee the survival of the main foreign currency-generating enterprise of the country and, as we have heard in many cases, increase production levels. Therefore, it is my opinion that we should analyze the miners' actions calmly and regard them as a step to perfect democratic life in Bolivia. [end recording]

Paz Zamora stated that everybody should cooperate so that the democratic process can continue without greater difficulties.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES SOVIET ARMS DELIVERY

FY280045 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2330 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] The Bolivian Foreign Ministry has denied reports published in the Paraguayan press that Bolivia might be receiving arms from the Soviet Union and setting up a radio station on the border with the intention of destabilizing the government of Chile. It was said at the Foreign Ministry that the reports are slanderous and baseless and that Bolivia can only reaffirm its traditional stand for peace and its position against arms races, especially at a time when the democratic government is devoting all its efforts to economic crisis in the country.

IDB DELEGATION MEETS WITH NATIONAL OFFICIALS

FY271715 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] The IDB delegation to Bolivia headed by operations manager (Norman Jones) will conclude its work today. The objective of this delegation was to assess the projects to be financed by the IDB for this year and the following 2 years.

The members of this delegation held a number of meetings with the finance minister and with the president of the Bolivian Central Bank. According to the report made to Radio Panamericana, they discussed the technical and financial aspects of the projects the country will submit for the consideration of the IDB during the next 3 years.

INTEGRATION MINISTER TRAVELS TO SPAIN 26 APR

FY271300 Paris AFP in Spanish 2343 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] La Paz, 26 Apr (AFP) -- In response to an invitation extended by the Spanish Government, Bolivian Integration Minister Jorge Gonzalez Roda traveled to Spain today to attend a meeting on democracy sponsored by the Spanish Socialist Workers Party. The meeting, due to being Wednesday, will last 3 days and will be attended by Latin American and European delegations.

During his stay in Spain, Minister Gonzalez Roda -- who will represent President Hernan Siles Zuazo -- will negotiate agreements that were already considered at the roundtable on international cooperation held in La Paz a few days ago.

LETTER OF INTENT SIGNED WITH SWEDEN 27 APR

FY272138 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The Swedish and Bolivian Governments this morning signed a letter of intent to strengthen mutual cooperation which will favor Comibol [Mining Corporation of Bolivia] sectors such as industry, energy, health and statistic. The document was signed by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Franklin Anaya and the director of the Swedish Foreign Ministry International Cooperation Development Department, Sten Raylander, who arrived in La Paz on Sunday heading the Swedish delegation with the purpose of talking with officials of the Foreign Ministry and specialized departments on new areas of cooperation with Bolivia. The delegation also held meetings with Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora, Foreign Minister Mario Velarde and representatives from the mining, health and electricity sectors.

DISPUTE WITH LIBYA CONTINUES OVER ARMS CARGOES

No U.S. Arms in Shipments

FY271435 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] In Brasilia, a high-ranking Air Force Ministry source has reported that the Libyan planes that were being held by the Brazilian Government did not carry any U.S.-made arms. Thus, the source is contradicting a statement made by presidential spokesman Carlos Atila, who said that there were U.S.-made arms aboard the Libyan planes that were unloaded in Manaus and Recife. Although the Air Force refused to comment on Atila's statement, the source confirmed that the arms and the explosives found abroad the planes are from the USSR and the CSSR.

Negotiations at Impasse

FY271450 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] The four Libyan planes are still parked at the Manaus and Recife Airports. Negotiations continue in Brasilia to seek an honorable outlet for the episode. Our correspondent Sandra Carvalho reports: [Begin relay from Brasilia] The negotiations between Brazil and Libya for the return of the cargo of the planes that are currently parked at Manaus and Recife have reached an impasse. The Brazilian Government insists on its position of not reloading the four Libyan jets with the cargo of weapons that was unloaded last weekend; which it wishes to return to Libya by other means at an opportune time, in accordance with the plan adopted by President Figueiredo and his ministers.

Acting President Aureliano Chaves' spokesman stated at Planalto Palace that the government hopes that the Libyan Government will order the planes to return as soon as possible. He says that the Libyans have a deadline because they do not have passports or visas.

The Libyans' attitude of not wanting to depart is being (?tolerated) by the Brazilian authorities.

Itamaray diplomats, in the absence of Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro -- who is in Mexico with President Figueiredo -- gave a simple reason why the planes are still in Brazil. They are awaiting Al-Qadhdhafi's order for the planes to return to Tripoli or any other place.

The diplomats have also confirmed that the Libyans have again requested that the planes be reloaded, stating that they will not leave Brazil without the load of arms that were being taken to Nicaragua. But, the Brazilian Government studied the matter before President Figueiredo left for Mexico, and it did not change its position.

The participation of a third country, in this case Italy, to take the weapons back to Tripoli is currently being studied as an honorable outlet. Vice President Aureliano Chaves, who has assumed the Presidency for the 13th time replacing President Figueiredo, stated that in no way will he move from the position that has been adopted by the government. From Brasilia, Sandra Carvalho for the Bandeirantes Network [end relay]

Libyans' Entry Permits Expire

PY271448 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] It has been noted that Brazilian officials have a legal basis for demanding that the Libyan planes leave Brazilian territory. According to a Recife military official, the 10-day permit that was granted by the Federal Police to the crew of the Libyan plane in Recife expired yesterday. Therefore, the members of the crew are staying in the country illegally. Moreover, an advisor of acting President Aureliano Chaves has reported that the president wants the Libyan planes to leave the country as soon as possible.

In Manaus, the Libyans returned to the Ilyushins for an exhaustive check of plane controls. Furthermore, the Federal Police returned the passports to all the members of the crew.

Planes To Refuel in Recife

PY271505 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Relay From Recife by Jose Torres]

[Text] The three Libyan planes in Manaus will join the Hercules in Recife. Brig Freddy Dalia Hoffman, commander of the second command, announced today that the Ilyushins have been authorized to land for refueling. However, he was unable to say when the planes would land at Guararapis. But according to Colonel Mauro, of the regional civil aviation service, SERAC, the landing will reportedly take place in the international sector of Guararapis airport. Air Force sources admitted that the landing would take place in the early morning. Therefore, the four Libyan planes would leave Recife with their tanks full, but their final destiny is still unknown.

SERAC officials at the airport, [words indistinct] after the departure of the commission that inspected the cargo transported by the Hercules. However, there were no reports about the arms found in the Libyan plane. Military sources (?confirmed) reports that the Hercules was transporting USSR- and U.S.-made arms [words indistinct]. Expectation about the planes in Manaus increased as the number of soldiers around the Hercules increased.

Crewmen Attack Photographers in Recife

PY272238 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Recife -- (Pedro Luiz Ferreira) and (Luiz Chagas), photographers for the newspapers O GLOBO and O DIARIO DO PERNAMBUCO were attacked today when they were trying to take pictures of crewmen of the Libyan C-130 Hercules plane. The incident took place when the photographers were on their way to the Libyans' apartments on the third floor of the Boa Viagem Hotel in Recife.

The photographers were attacked by the Libyans on the first floor and then taken to apartment No 327. (Chagas) was not released until his camera was broken. (Ferreira) was not released until the military and civil police intervened. Boa Viagem police delegate (Joao Aciori) will summon the Libyans for questioning tomorrow.

Impasse Continues

PY280014 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Excerpt] After the audiences, the press adviser of the vice president's office, Joao Baptista Correa, informed the journalists that there is no additional news regarding the Libyan planes. [Begin Correa recording] The situation remains the same. The Brazilian Government is waiting for the Libyan Government to adopt the pertinent measures for the return of the cargo, which can be done with an airplane that is not under the Brazilian or Libyan flags. This also includes the crew of the airplane. [end recording]

Correa also said that President Figueiredo is being continually informed about the matter by the National Security Council and that he himself had informed the president about the incident that occurred today in Recife. [Libyan crewmen attack on Brazilian news photographers] [Begin Correa recording] I informed the president, but it is a police case, the president has been informed. [end recording]

Italy, Saudi Arabia Possible Mediators

PY280219 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 27 Apr 83 p 5

[Excerpt] Brasilia -- An authoritative Brazilian diplomatic source yesterday conceded that the incident involving the Libyan planes "has become seriously complicated in the past 24 hours." The source noted that the Brazilian Government will avail itself of every means to solve this problem but confirmed that "the Libyans have adopted an intransigent position."

Among the means Brazil can avail itself of are the governments of Italy and Saudi Arabia. An Itamaraty source confirmed an earlier military report that Italy could be contacted by Brazil to transport the weapons since the Brazilian Government does not agree to the idea of having the weapons returned to Libya on board the Libyan planes. In the face of its tremendous military, economic and political influence in the Arab world, Saudi Arabia could also be asked to "somehow" take part in this operation. Saudi sources in Brasilia have not confirmed this report, at least for the time being.

More on Cargo Contents

PY280222 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 27 Apr 83 p 4

[Text] Two disassembled war planes, aircraft spare parts, light weapons such as machineguns, rifles, mortars (infantry's typical cannons), multiple missile launchers, and a large amount of ammunition were found in the Libyan planes cargo. This information was provided by a top government source who saw the inventory of the seized materiel, which was presented to President Figueiredo on Monday [25 April]. The source admitted the possibility that the arms in the Libyan planes could have been going to guerrillas, because all the materiel is of "relative value only, because an army would need more sophisticated arms."

The source, however, observed: "The materiel could be for the army of a country with few resources or for a guerrilla force at an advanced stage of organization."

The same source said that the two disassembled planes found in the Ilyushins are small war planes, similar to the Xavante model which is manufactured in Brazil. He explained that they are "short range, small firepower" planes, that is, they can carry small cannons and small caliber missiles.

The missiles found in the Libyan planes are not long-range nor very sophisticated. "It all depends on what you call a missile. You can call them rockets, because anything that is self-propelled can be called either a missile or a rocket -- it does not need a cannon to be fired. Those found are short-range."

Still, the same source reported that "multiple missile launchers" -- which Brazil is capable of manufacturing -- capable of firing 40 missiles per minute were also found in the Libyan planes' cargo.

Italy To Return Cargoes

PY280324 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] A high-ranking Itamaraty source revealed tonight that the Libyan Government has already agreed to having Italy take care of returning the arms cargo seized in Brazil to Tripoli. Although the above report was denied in official information channels, the source added that the Brazilian Government expects that by next Sunday Italy will have already picked up the cargo.

The following is a report from our correspondent Sandra Carvalho from Brasilia. [Begin Carvalho relay] Brazil and Libya have already reached an agreement to solve the case of the planes carrying an illegal shipment of arms through Brazilian territory. The Italian Embassy in Brasilia confirmed that the agreement is being negotiated directly by Itamaraty and the Italian Foreign Ministry. The agreement consists of the following: First, the arms unloaded from the four planes -- three in Manaus and one in Recife -- will be taken directly to Tripoli by an Italian-flag plane; secondly, when this cargo has reached Libyan territory and this fact is confirmed in Brasilia, the three Ilyushin and the Hercules C-130 planes will leave Brazilian territory with their crewmen. The Libyans will maintain their position of not leaving Brazil until the cargo reaches Tripoli, from where it will then be transshipped to Nicaragua. The Libyan Embassy today broke its silence and called a press conference for Friday, when it will announce its decision. [end relay]

Agreement With Libya

PY280333 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] The incident of the Libyan planes that are still parked in Brazil will also be highlighted in tomorrow's newspapers.

One of the Libyan crewmen revealed today that the Tripoli government has good faith in Itamaraty and therefore he is hopeful that the weapons and explosives that were confiscated will be reloaded [onto the Libyan planes].

During the contact that the crewman had with the press, he explained that Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro supports the idea of reloading the planes, but it is difficult to instill this idea into the heads of the military ministers.

According to the crewman, if Brazil does not act firmly in refusing to send the cargo by sea, the Tripoli government will take reprisals, possibly that of reducing trade relations with Brazil.

A high-ranking Itamaraty source revealed today that the Libyan Government has already agreed that it will be Italy that will transport the cargo of weapons that was confiscated in Brazil. Despite the information that has been released by competent official sources, the same source has stated that the Brazilian Government expects that Italy will have the transport means in Brazil by Sunday so that loading can begin at once.

SENATOR ASKS DIPLOMATIC MOVE IN NICARAGUA

PY280213 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 27 Apr 83

[From the Congressional Report -- Senate]

[Excerpt] Senator Henrique Santillo [Workers Party -- Goias State] has proposed Brazil's diplomatic intervention to seek a solution to the Nicaraguan problem. He reviewed the current situation in Nicaragua. He denounced U.S. pressure on Nicaragua and the threat of invasion of its territory by groups that are supported by the United States.

PLANNING MINISTER MEETS WITH JAPANESE MINISTERS

PY242230 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] In Tokyo Planning Minister Delfim Netto met with the Japanese finance, foreign relations and international trade and industry ministers. Delfim Netto listened to expressions of confidence in the Brazilian economic recovery with the overcoming of short-term problems which affect the world economy.

Information on the meeting was disclosed by the Planning Ministry in Brasilia. According to the information, Minister Delfim Netto also met with the manager of the Bank of Japan, the president of the Eximbank of Japan and the president of the Japanese fund for foreign aid. The Japanese authorities asseted their country's interest in financing the projects for grain production on Brazilian scrubland.

BRIZOLA'S 17 APR SPEECH IRRITATES MILITARY

PY211435 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Speech made by Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola in Sao Borja on Sunday had unfavorable repercussions among military circles. In Brasilia a military source stated that, despite the fact that Figueiredo will still receive Brizola, the Rio de Janeiro governor is harshly criticizing the honor of [word indistinct]. A military officer from Rio de Janeiro also said that there will be problems between Brizola and the military.

RUMINAHUI OCCUPATION OF HONDURAN EMBASSY ENDS

PA271237 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0901 GMT 27 Apr 83

[By Jorge Aguirre]

[Excerpt] Quito, 27 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- The occupation of the Honduran Embassy in Quito by a group of Ecuadoreans who were demanding definite positions on the Central American crisis from the government ended this morning at 0630 GMT, after several government spokesmen explained that Ecuador's foreign policy will not be subject to this kind of pressure.

The action, for which the self-styled Ruminahui Front of Solidarity with Central America and the Caribbean, a pro-Moscow leftwing organization, has claimed credit, lasted 14 hours. Upon its conclusion, three Honduran diplomats, two of them women, who were being held hostages recovered their freedom.

A mediating commission created at the front's request secured the withdrawal of the police controlling the area near the embassy, after which its illegal occupiers left the place in three vehicles, while trying to conceal their identities from the journalists and television cameras.

GOVERNMENT MINISTER REORGANIZES POLICE FORCE

PA272320 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The change of command ceremony for new police Commander General (Jorge Castro Pabon) was held at the National Police Academy at noon today. The event was attended by President Oswaldo Hurtado and Government Minister Vladimir Alvarez Grau as well as by civilian and military authorities.

The reorganization of top police leaders began with this appointment made by Alvarez Grau who asked Generals (Marco Alomia), (Felix Benavides) and (Jorge Narvaez) to accept inactive service status in order to carry out this reorganization.

Alvarez Grau spoke at the ceremony and said that the government must continue to work for a highly responsible and efficient police force, a force that has the qualities needed by our society and that is a true instrument of order and security.

He explained that the state and its government are making strong efforts to meet all these goals but the police commander, officers and patrolmen must double these efforts and must give priority to moral principles, strict discipline and constant training.

NICARAGUAN PLANNING MINISTER ARRIVES FOR MEETING

PA270439 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Quito -- Commander of the Revolution Henry Ruiz, Nicaraguan planning minister, arrived in Quito today to participate in a meeting on food strategy for the region.

The meeting will also be attended by Roberto Gutierrez and Antonio Blandon, Nicaragua's deputy ministers of agriculture and planning.

The event is sponsored by FAO's World Food Council and the IDB.

Peace Efforts Urged

PA271931 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1147 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Quito, 27 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Nicaragua has demanded active Latin American participation in the achievement of peace in Central Amierca and condemned what it described as increasing U.S. threats.

Henry Ruiz, Nicaraguan planning minister and FSLN Directorate member, made this request last night before the Ecuadorean Congressional Committee on International Affairs.

"It is necessary that Latin America take action to avert war (in Central America), which would not benefit any country in the world," he said. He noted that the Managua government trusts in the efforts of the Contadora Group -- composed of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama -- in its search for a negotiated peace formula for Central America.

"But in the face of those efforts, U.S. President (Ronald) Reagan appears more threatening on every occasion and is preparing to make an even more threatening speech," he said, alluding to the speech by the U.S. President that is scheduled for today. Ruiz said that his country is engaged in daily fighting against the rightwing insurgents who are oprating from neighboring Honduras, and affirmed that grave threats hover over Nicaragua. "Between 5 to 10 men die every day in combat, defending their revolution," the minister stated.

Ruiz dismissed U.S. arguments that the leftwing Sandinist Government poses a threat to the region's countries. "Why would we want war, when Nicaragua is mired in the problems inherited from Somozism, our economy is dwindling and we have barely 3 million inhabitants?" he asked.

"The Nicaraguan revolution was not undertaken in an attempt to attack any country, much less sister countries, which is why we ask Latin America to counter the extremely serious threat hanging over my country," the minister stated. He described neighboring Honduras as a sanctuary for the Somozist invaders," (supporters of the defeated dictator Anastasio Somoza) and said that the Honduran Army is sheltering the forces that are invading Nicaragua.

"The threat to Nicaragua is complicated, because there is an organized force in Costa Rica of some 700 to 1,000 men, well equipped with modern arms," who presumably support the rightists, Ruiz said to the Ecuadorean congressmen. The Nicaraguan minister asked the Ecuadorean Congress to issue a statement supporting peace in Central America.

FINANCE MINISTER TO NEW YORK FOR DEBT TALKS

PA280306 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Ecuadorean Finance Minister Pedro Pinto left for New York today to discuss the refinancing of the private sector's foreign debt according to terms established in a telex that the Monetary Board sent to the country's creditor banks last week. Before his departure, Pinto told this station that representatives of 400 creditor banks of the Ecuadorean private sector will participate in tomorrow's meeting through a [word indistinct] committee.

Regarding the refinancing of the public sector's foreign debt, the finance minister said that this obligation is already being met because Ecuador has been paying interest since November. Therefore, he said, the main reason for the trip is to discuss the private sector's foreign debt.

Pinto said that minidevaluation system is giving excellent results and therefore does not need review by [word indistinct]. He recalled that Colombia has applied this system for the past 2 years. He noted that it will prevent Ecuador from having to institute maxidevaluations.

PRESIDENT ON FALKLANDS, SUBVERSION, REAGAN

PY251836 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 24 Apr 83 p 1

[Undated interview granted by President Alfredo Stroessner to unidentified Chilean journalists in Asuncion]

[Excerpts] [Question] South America was rocked by the South Atlantic confrontation last year. What is your country's position in this regard? Do you believe that the conflict might break out again if the negotiations are not expedited?

[Answer] Paraguay's international policy has always been based on an unalterable defense of the principle of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other countries. However, the nonintervention that we practice and that we also demand for our country does not prevent us from expressing our brotherly support for peaceful and legal solutions to all kinds of disputes.

At the same time, Paraguay is currently and always will support and defend peace, which is the source of all good, because the Paraguayan Government and the Paraguayan people have always maintained a peaceful position.

[Question] What is your opinion about international Marxist subversion on the continent, particularly in Central America with the actions carried out by Cuba and Nicaragua?

[Answer] The free peoples and we, the rulers who act on their behalf, must quash at any cost the subversion created and promoted by international Marxism. There are no in-between stands as far as this issue is concerned. It is either we or they who will survive. The survival of subversion will mean an end to freedom, sovereignty, independence and peace. In sum, it would mean the destruction of all the goals attained by free peoples.

America as a whole should rise up against and halt the advance of communism on our continent. Our continent cannot and must not continue to put up with the Soviet menace, which has already gotten hold of Cuba and Nicaragua and is now attempting to overwhelm other friendly nations.

[Question] Could you refer to the relations with Paraguay's bordering countries -- Bolivia, Argentina and Brazil -- and to the integration plans with them?

[Answer] The Republic of Paraguay is a loyal friend of its friends. We maintain very good relations with all countries provided they do not belong to the communist orbit. We particularly promote and support friendship with our bordering nations for obvious reasons, and also because we consider that friendship is one of the great achievements that the governments and the people should never relinquish. Any type of integration is possible and feasible within a friendly atmosphere. This principle guides our actions in all the international forums we attend to discuss these problems.

[Question] Do you believe that the United States is acting like a political leader of the Western world, particularly in connection with the Latin American countries?

[Answer] In spite of the great difficulties the United States faces as the leader of free peoples, I believe that, thanks to the firm and resolute policy implemented by President Reagan, whom I consider to be sincerely committed to defending the interests of the Americas [Americanista], the United States is complying, whenever possible, with the delicate mission of being the leader of the Western world at a time when the tyranny and terror promoted by international Communism are threatening our own existence. For this reason, my answer to your questions is by all means affirmative.

[Question] To what extent has the world recession affected Paraguay, and how has Paraguay resolved the problems created by the recession?

[Answer] We are tackling the problems with austerity plans and also by promoting a continuous increase in the production of exportable consumer goods. I will not deny that the situation is delicate but, as I told you at the beginning, the Paraguayan people are a great people and they are not afraid of problems that, as I usually say, are there to be resolved. And we are already resolving them with optimum results.

APRA LEADER ON LOCAL ECONOMIC ISSUES, TERRORISM

PY272130 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] APRA, American Revolutionary Popular Alliance, Secretary General Alan Garcia has agreed to hold a technical dialogue with AP, Popular Action. He stressed that they may even engage in a political debate, provided it is advantageous for the country.

Alan Garcia traveled to Spain yesterday, where he will attend a meeting to be held by democratic Latin American and Spanish parties. Former Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa also traveled to Spain yesterday. Ulloa had invited Alan Garcia to publicly debate over the Peruvian economic situation. Alan Garcia also referred to terrorism. He remarked that police forces must be endowed with more means.

[Begin recording] [Garcia] This means that we are willing to engage in a technical discussion about this point. For this purpose, we have handed over a document about the present crisis to the president. This document includes serious alternatives about debt refinancing, the approval of the code of subsidies, the enactment of some changes in taxes on gross capitalization and the financing of projects for economic reactivation. We have said that our technicians will support before any government agency, those of our proposals that the president may decide to accept.

[Question in progress] slow, inhumane killing of peasants in Ayacucho. What is your opinion on this matter?

[Garcia] We have categorically condemned Shining Path's violent actions. We believe that the intervention in those strife-torn departments has not yet yielded proper results. We believe that both the police and the Armed Forces operating in that area must be endowed with more and better means. We also believe that our nation can no longer live amid daily reports about dozens of peasants who have been machinegunned or executed. We believe that the situation is so serious that, if not solved, it will put our country's democracy in jeopardy. [end recording]

DE LA MADRID WELCOMES BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT

FL271354 Mexico City Voz de la America Latina in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] The president of Brazil, Joao Baptista Figueiredo, as we all know, arrived in our country at 1600 [local] and was welcomed at Cancun airport by Quiniana Roo by Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado. The two heads of state, accompanied by their respective cabinet ministers, reviewed the guard of honor and greeted members of the diplomatic corps in Mexico.

During the welcoming speeches, Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado said that we still have time to keep the battle of the jungle from devouring our minds as it travels through the world The country's leader said the two nations would evaluate the actions to be taken to overcome the hard time of crisis being experienced. He told the Brazilian president that together they could serve the great causes of Latin America.

Brazilian President Joao Baptista Figueiredo said that Mexico's political will is an example of positive and true solidarity which ought to be followed in the cooperation between developing countries.

Later, President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado granted an interview to Brazilian journalists and told them that he would discuss common problems truthfully and frankly with his Brazilian counterpart with the hope of finding solutions to the serious bilateral problems shared by the two nations.

The presidents of Mexico and Brazil and the members of their respective cabinets met promptly yesterday to begin their first round of talks.

Presidents Discuss C.A., Trade

FL272231 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1930 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Cancun, 27 Apr (NOTIMEX) — The presidents of Mexico and Brazil agreed here today on the need to seek a peaceful solution in Central America, it was officially announced at the conclusion of the first round of talks between the two heads of state. Joao Baptista Figueiredo who arrived yesterday afternoon in Cancun, a beach on the Mexican Caribbean, met with his counterpart Miguel de la Madrid to discuss the conflict in Central America. He endorsed the efforts of the Mexican Government, together with the countries of the Contadora Group -- Venezuela, Colombia and Panama — aimed at achieving peace in the area, the announcement indicated.

The two chiefs of state agreed on the urgency to remove the threat of a generalized conflict in Central America during their first round of talks, which was held in an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship and guided by a constructive spirit and the desire to strengthen relations between the two nations in order to undertake concrete actions, it was noted. De la Madrid told Figueiredo that the relations between Mexico and Brazil should result in a greater Latin American solidarity.

While the two heads of state hold talks, which will continue this afternoon in accordance with the schedule of the 3-day visit of the Brazilian president, working groups headed by secretaries of state and ministers of the two countries have been examining the future of bilateral economic relations.

The work groups have taken up trade and technological exchanges and the financial situation of the countries.

The announcement indicated that the Mexican secretaries of state and Brazilian ministers have proposed comprehensive solutions to similar problems of the two nations and, in the case of the foreign debt, they agreed it must be faced up to in a realistic manner and simplistic solution must be avoided.

The Brazilian and Mexican officials studied the possibility of increasing investments up to a maximum of $2 billion, based on a diversified trade, principally of manufactured products, the meeting's report pointed out.

CUBA'S RODRIGUEZ LLOMPART ADDRESSES COMMISSION

PA271923 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 23 Apr 83 pp 1, 9

[By Felicitas Pliego]

[Text] The United States is trying to reestablish its big stick policy in Latin America. This is demonstrated by its brazen interference in the domestic affairs of the Central American and Caribbean nations, Hector Rodriguez Llompart, president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation, charged yesterday.

After asserting that the United States wants to achieve military supremacy in order "to dictate to the world," Rodriguez Llompart stressed that the revolutionary processes in our America do not result from any plot whose strings are moved by remote control, rather, they are the peoples' response to the unbearably oppressive economic, political and social conditions that prevail in those exploited societies, which lack all freedom.

At the end of the sixth meeting of the Mixed Cuban-Mexican Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation, Rodriguez Llompart said that the world economic panorama could not be more worrisome, noting that world trade has been severely affected by the protectionist, discriminatory, restrictive, punitive and occasionally illegal measures adopted by certain developed countries.

The international monetary and financial situation is in the midst of a profound crisis. The Third World is feeling the most negative effects of this crisis, while facing a foreign debt of delirious proportions, which cannot even be paid in many cases. The gap separating the industrialized nations from the developing countries grows wider every day.

This is because development and technological transfer pose increasingly difficult problems. Moreover, it is obvious that the dramatic situation experienced by the hungry and illiterate Third World masses -- by the millions of children, women and elderly people who are without protection or schools and who live in perpetually and increasingly unhealthy conditions -- demands immediate action.

Thus the insistence that technical cooperation among the developing countries be fostered and encouraged as part of a process of establishing a new, more just and equitable international economic order. Both Cuba and Mexico can be proud of what they have done to date to promote bilateral scientific-technical cooperation. The 18 bilateral agreements that they have already signed are a good indication of this.

It is worth stressing that we regard our ties in this area as exemplary and as models for Latin America, a region where both nations' should strive to promote the principle of cooperation, in order to contribute to the unity of our peoples and to the permanent struggle against underdevelopment, which we must all wage, Rodriguez Llompart concluded.

PEMEX TO EXPORT 1.5 MILLION BARRELS OF OIL DAILY

FL262043 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1955 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- The state enterprise Pemex announced today it will export this year an average of 1.5 million barrels daily. The report noted that during 1983 the enterprise expects to earn some $16 billion from exports compared to $10.5 in 1982. Statistics supplied by the enterprise indicate the 50 percent of its sales abroad are to the United States and rest to other countries, among them are the San Jose Accord recipients which together buy 70,000 barrels daily.

The production platform announced by Pemex averages 2.75 billion barrels daily.

Gas Reserves, Exploitation

PA222154 Mexico City NOVEDADES in Spanish 20 Apr 83 p 1

[By Pedro Rosales C.]

[Text] Pemex has started an exhaustive revision of Mexico's potential in natural gas, since estimates in the past that led to heavy investments for the exploitation of this resource do not correspond to reality, and reserves appear to be much smaller.

Pemex has committed itself before representatives of Congress to determine the amount of natural gas reserves. According to a preliminary report, Pemex had deemed Sabinas Gulf in Coahuila and enormous reservoir of natural gas, but the truth is that production of natural gas in the region has been reduced. A similar phenomenon occurred in the wells Pemex has dug in the seabed of Campeche Bay.

In addition, the expected domestic natural gas production for this year will be 4.2 billion cubic feet daily. Exports to the United States will not be above the contracted figure of 300 million cubic feet daily. Pemex also plans to exploit fully by the end of the year the natural gas being produced in the Campeche seabed so that some 400 million cubic feet of gas daily will not be burned in the atmosphere. As for natural gas production in land fields, Pemex reported that 98 percen is being exploited.

LUGO GIL ON ISSUES AT HELSINKI MEETING

FL270159 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2140 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- At the World Interparliamentary meeting, Mexico reasserted its foreign policy dealing with international coexistence and the need for right and justice to continue to be the principles to be respected in order to achieve peace and progress for all peoples, it was announced here.

Deputy Humberto Lugo Gil, as president of the Mexican delegation to the meeting taking place in Helsinki, Finland, which is being attended by representatives from 90 countries, stated that neither the economic disorder nor the struggle of forces motivated by hegemonic aspirations discourage our nation in the face of the crisis being endured by the world.

The Mexicans, Lugo Gil said, have faith in man, in his ability to end disorder and to use reason instead of force and justice instead of outrage. He indicated that to the degree that there is freedom of expression, and actions are carried out with joint determination, there will be positive responses to the very many demands of the present.

The president of the Grand Commission of the Chamber of Deputies pointed out Mexico's concern for the world community which at times, he said, has appeared to be headed for collective suicide. We wish to note what we feel urgently needs a solution in dealings between developed countries and those which like us, are struggling to become developed, he stated.

He said there are solutions and clashes, but there is confidence that they will be discussed in the international forum and that this union will result in increasingly more efficient responses. [as received]

He stated that Mexico is living through difficult moments in its financial structure, but that Mexico believes in a practices the system of mixed economy, without it's affecting the already established social guarantees. He noted that the problems being endured today by the Mexican people have led to a consciousness of national unity and solidarity. He said the Mexican Government does not cancel the freedoms as a way to solve problems, that it has a program underway of economic reordering which, with shared sacrifice, will lead to the solution of the problems in a medium term.

Lugo Gil said his country has paid a high price for democracy, freedom and social justice, and these principles which we practice at home we would like to see prevailing in the world.

ANTI-SANDINIST FDN LEADER MEETS WITH DE LA ESPRIELLA

PA272024 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Ciro Ortega interview with Adolfo Calero, director of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, in Panama City, no date given -- recorded]

[Text] [Calero] I am the director of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN]. We are responsible for the freedom commands that are currently fighting on behalf of democracy in northern Nicaragua. My primary purpose for coming to Panama was to meet with President de la Espriella, which I have done. I also wanted to get in touch with the active forces in this country -- members of the chamber of commerce, old university friends -- to explain Nicaragua's situation to them. We think that the current situation affects not only Nicaragua but Central America as a whole, including Panama. Indeed, we think that it affects the entire hemisphere.

A battle is being waged in Nicaragua, which we might compare with the battle of Marathon, where a handful of Greeks fought and defeated the Persians, who were ready to invade Europe. In Nicaragua we are currently fighting Soviet expansionism, which, through Havana, is trying to conquer Nicaragua in Central America. An effort is being made to turn Latin America into an area for Soviet expansionism.

[Question] What did you discuss during your meeting with President de la Espriella?

[Answer] I thought that would be your next question. I explained the Nicaraguan situation to President de la Espriella. I agreed with him that peaceful means must be sought to reach a solution.

[Question] How soon do you think you will be able to overthrow the Sandinist forces?

[Answer] Our forces, our people, are not prepared to either defeat or overthrow the Sandinist regime. What we can do and are doing is to pressure the Sandinists into fulfilling the offers they made to the Nicaraguan people, to the OAS and to the entire world.

[Question] (?Is) Eden Pastora, Commader Cero, with your forces at the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border and is there coordination between your organization and Pastora?

[Answer] Commander Cero, my friend Pastora, leads to Democratic Reovlutionary Alliance, Arde. We are not yet coordinated, but we have the same goal. I hope that we will reach an understanding very soon.

[Question] Is the pressure you are exerting of a warlike nature?

[Answer] Yes. The only kind of pressure that the communists understand is warlike pressure. Our army is fighting with FAL rifles.

[Question] FAL rifles?

[Answer] Right.

[Question] How many men do you have?

[Answer] At this point we might say that there are between 6,500 and 7,000 armed men inside Nicaragua.

[Question] Did you come here in search of capital with which to finance the FDN?

[Answer] The best capital that we can obtain through our effort is human capital. We want both the Panamanian Government and the people to identify with, understand and learn about the true Nicaraguan situation. We are not necessarily looking for money.

President Denies Support for FDN

PA280316 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2110 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Panama City, 27 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella today reaffirmed the need to find negotiated political solutions to the region's problems. He also reaffirmed his opposition to warmongering methods.

In a statement for ACAN-EFE, De la Espriella said that the border incursions aggravate the tensions and dangers in Central America and reaffirmed his confidence in the "Contadora Group" and in the principles that motivate this Latin American initiative.

The Panamanian president's remarks contradict affirmations by Adolfo Carrero [surname as received] Portocarrero, representative of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), to the effect that Ricardo de la Espriella supported the opinion of this movement.

The Panamanian president said that the meeting with Carrero Protocarrero was "accidental." A presidential spokesman said that Panama has not recognized the violence advocated by the FDN.

According to the official source, the president listened to Nicaraguan opposition leader "for the sole purpose of informing himself of the situation of the organization that the Nicaraguan claims to represent."

The FDN is an anti-Sandinist military organization that operates along the Honduran-Nicaraguan border.

REFORMS SEEN AS REASSERTION OF DEMOCRACY

PA271904 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 27 Apr 83 pp 1-A, 6-B

[By Demetrio Olaciregui]

[Excerpt] Legal experts who have been interviewed have indicated that the constitutional reforms that were approved on Sunday by half a million Panamanians reassert the democratic and social aspects of the 1972 Constitution, legally establishing democracy as an institution in Panama. Several measures that, according to jurists, will place a single constitutional text in effect will have to be enacted to achieve the transition between the 1972 Constitution and the amended one that was approved in Sunday's referendum.

The draft of the constitutional reforms contains 14 transitional provisions that empower President Ricardo de la Espriella to order the compilation of a single text through the systematic arrangement of the unreformed and reformed articles within 20 days after the Electoral Tribunal makes the official results of the vote public. Therefore, the reformed Constitution will take effect the moment the single text is published in the Official Gazette.

Humberto Ricord, who was the vice president of the Commission for Review of the National Constitution, told Radio Libertad that once the single text of the Constitution takes effect, Panamanians will have a "democratic social" constitution, given its emphasis on traditional electoral democracy and its preservation of the most relevant social aspects of the 1941, 1946 and 1972 Constitutions.

GUARD BREAKS UP WORKERS DEMONSTRATION IN CAPITAL

PA280053 Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 2349 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Our correspondent Pedro Ureta reports directly from the very site of the news and says that several National Guard members in full combat dress have dislodged hundreds of demonstrators who early this morning had taken over the area around the Legislative Palace, the 5 de Mayo Plaza and a long stretch of the Central Avenue.

Due to the demonstration, a great traffic jam, mainly consisting of the buses en route to Santa Ana and Chorrillo, occurred. So far there are no reports of injuries, even though several shots were fired into the air and teargas bombs were thrown.

However, people were injured by stones and several Central Avenue store windows were broken after a day of great activity by workers in the main streets of Old Panama.

A National Guardsman interviewed by this station said that the actions against private property were carried out mainly by common criminals who had infiltrated the demonstration. These criminals were carrying large sacks and were trying to loot the stores.

During the morning, leaders of the workers movement met with Panamanian Vice President Jorge Illueca and stated their demands, mainly that 1/3 of their thirteenth month, which totals some 37 million balboas be earmarked as capital to establish a workers bank. The bank would finance housing construction for the most humble classes.

The workers insist that they will not leave the streets or return to their work until the national government satisfactorily solves their problem and meets their demands.

Mario Typaldos, deputy director of the Social Security Board, recently said that if the second installment of the thirteenth month is returned as requested by the workers, the organization would suffer a financial deficit and it would be necessary to increase the social security payments of workers and management.

COSTA RICA

DETAINED SHIP HAS MATERIAL FOR NICARAGUA'S BORGE

PA271433 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Yesterday, Costa Rican authorities detained a 300-ton [as heard] Panamanian-registerd boat carrying explosives, detonators and, apparently, weapons and confidential information for the Sandinist government. The Costa Rican Security Ministry reported that the vessel "Lewbi" was bound for Puerto Corinto in Nicaragua from the port of Cristobal in Panama.

Our authorities discovered that the vessel was carrying strictly confidential information from the Nicaraguan ambassador in Panama to Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge. There was no manifest found on board.

The Panamanian authorities have not yet been informed, according to the security minister, who said that the boat was, in fact, carrying explosives and detonators and that, in view of its size, the entire cargo had not yet been inspected as of last night. He added that the Panamanian authorities will be informed once a complete report on the cargo is obtained, so that the government may proceed accordingly.

Ship To Continue Trip After Repairs

PA280246 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] The ship bound for Nicaragua was not carrying weapons. The Public Security Ministry has reported that the inspection by ministry officials has confirmed that the Panamanian-registerd ship "Lewbi" was not carrying weapons. The only thing it was transporting was niter [nitro] explosives and detonators which had been ordered by a private Nicaraguan company and which were to be unloaded in Corinto.

The ship was coming from Hamburg and transited the Panama Canal en route to Nicaragua. It was then going to Buenaventura, Colombia, and from there to Ecuador where it would leave the rest of the cargo. The security minister reported that all of the ship's papers, passports and cargo documents are in order.

The (Sermar) company is repairing the ship's engine since it has been confirmed that it had engine trouble. The ship is expected to be repaired in 2 days so that it can continue its scheduled route, Public Security Ministry spokesmen said. Public Security Deputy Minister Johnny Campos, legal adviser (Fabio Leon) and the prosecutor and assistant prosecutor are in Puntarenas inspecting the ship in order to issue an official report.

GOVERNMENT REITERATES NEUTRALITY STANCE

PA280237 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] A manifesto issued by the Council of Government has reiterated respect for the principle of self-determination of peoples, nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other states, and the peaceful solution of international conflicts. The manifesto also reiterated Costa Rica's neutrality.

The government stated: We feel we have sufficient moral authority to reiterate that Costa Rica will never be an aggressor state; therefore, it will not permit the use of its territory to plan or execute warlike acts against other states. It also rejects the campaign to discredit the country by seeking to present Costa Rica as an aggressor against Nicaragua.

The policy of neutrality that the Costa Rican Government and people maintain on international armed conflicts and the domestic conflicts of other countries must be zealously upheld. The government also believes that this policy should be contained in a statute of the highest legal and political level so that it will permanently guide Costa Rica's foreign relations.

The government statement said: As long as the confrontation continues on the ideological battlefield, we will actively favor the ideas of freedom, justice, solidarity and peace. Whenever the confrontation degenerates into armed violence, we are neutral.

Meanwhile, Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge Alvarez said that proper conditions do not currently exist for Costa Rica to resort to the international organizations to bring up the incidents with Nicaragua. The president said that if Costa Rica turns to the United Nations it will not have the support of the so-called Afro-Asian group. He also said that neither can Costa Rica go to the OAS without being completely sure of a triumph because this would be a defeat for the inter-American juridical system.

President Monge added that Costa Rica has been undertaking some international soundings on the conflicts with Nicaragua, and these indicate that conditions apparently do not exist for the country to resort to the international organizations. Therefore, the paths of bilateral solutions must continue to be used, he said.

Asked whether he thinks the governments of Mexico, Venezuela and Panama favor Nicaragua, the president said: We would not say that they favor Nicaragua, but that some countries view the Central American situation differently, through other lenses. At this time, the Costa Rican Government is convinced that it cannot obtain open support at either the United Nations or the OAS.

The recurrence of the border incidents with Nicaragua places the country in a serious situation because it cannot declare war nor can it resort to the international organizations. That is why, President Monge said, we will continue the efforts in search of bilateral and peaceful solutions. However, he said that studies continue for international-level action. Asked what attitude Costa Rica will take if the incidents continue and if an attack occurs, the president said: I would rather not predict what Costa Rica might do in such a case.

FMLN, FDR REPRESENTATIVES MEET WITH DEPUTIES

PA280326 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] Two of the main leaders of the Salvadoran guerrillas appeared today before a special commission of the Legislative Assembly. Mario Aguinada Carranza and Jorge Villacorta, representatives of the FMLN and the FDR, spoke with the deputies who are members of the commission for peace in Central America.

Aguinada gave a broad explanation of the history, according to him, of El Salvador's institutional life. He stressed that justice has never existed in that small Central American country.

The FMLN leader praised the Costa Rican legislature for having been concerned enough to create the commission and thus join the efforts to achieve peace in Central America. The FMLN representative said that they are waging war to win the peace that they have never enjoyed. We have not had the opportunity to have justice, democracy and well-being because since December 1981, the Salvadoran people have had a rightist military dictatorship. He added: The country has not had civilian president except for those who have temporarily accepted the presidency in order to turn it over to military officers months later. We have never experienced what the Costa Rican people experience; the possibility of electing their rulers. The regime of oppression in El Salvador is very strong, the Salvadoran guerrilla added.

The revolutionary army has made important advances because it is very strong. Thousands of combatants from among the people have joined it, Mario Aguinada said. The guerrillas have killed 6,000 army soldiers and if it were not for the presence of the United States, the people's army would have already defeated the army, Aguinada Carranza said.

We are willing to hold a dialogue, even with the Reagan government. We would establish commitments that we guarantee will be respected, Aguinada said. The FMLN representative said that in Costa Rica there are some news media that in no way help the achievement of peace in Central America.

NICARAGUA'S WHEELOCK TO VISIT FOR TALKS

PA280113 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0056 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] San Jose, 27 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Costa Rican Foreign Ministry announced late today the imminent visit of one of the Sandinist government commanders. A Foreign Ministry spokesman revealed that the Managua government and the FSLN National Directorate requested that a high-level meeting be held immediately.

The Nicaragua visitor will be Jaime Wheelock, commander of the revolution and minister of state. He will be received in San Jose by Second Vice President Armando Arauz Aguilar, who is also the coordinator of the Security Council, which was converted into the "General Staff" last night. It was also announced that President Luis Alberto Monge will name other officials to meet with Wheelock to analyze the matters that he is coming to discuss in San Jose.

EL SALVADOR

ARMY ANTIREBEL OFFENSIVE LEAVES 185 DEAD

PA271759 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2133 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Some 185 people, including 150 guerrillas, were killed in a government offensive against guerrilla hideouts in the northern provinces of Chalatenango and Cabanas, military sources announced today. The sources indicated that 35 soldiers were killed during the 4-day offensive, which concluded today.

Security measures were recently tightened in both provinces, especially near the Cerron Grande and Chorrera del Guayabo hydroelectric dams, which supply power to most of El Salvador, in view of guerrilla threats that they would attack economic targets. Several zones of San Salvador were cordoned off today while security forces staged raids in search of possible guerrilla hideouts.

The government's offensive was directed at guerrilla positions on the slopes of the Guazapa volcano, 32 km north of San Salvador, in addition to the provinces already mentioned.

COLONEL BLANDON ON GUAZAPA HILL OPERATION

PA271827 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1930 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Col Adolfo Blandon, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade told ACAN-EFE today that at least 32 guerrillas were killed in the initial stages of the military operation taking place at Guazapa Hill. The military leader said that the "Saltpeter 10" operation, which was begun on 21 April, will continue "until the area is as quiet as possible."

Blandon has reported that the government forces advanced both north and east on Guazapa Hill today, especially in the cantons of Palo Grande and Las Bermudas, where rebel camps have been located. Blandon said that the armed forces have suffered only one dead and five wounded during the clashes that have taken place on Guazapa Hill to date. He added that seven M-16 and four FAL rifles have been seized from the guerrillas

The commander of the San Carlos barracks noted that the first phase of the operation has had positive results for the armed forces, since several hideouts, from which the rebels attacked nearby military bases and carried out sabotage operations on the main northern highway, have been dismantled.

Colonel Blandon said that none of the special battalions trained in counterinsurgency operations is participating in this operation; only troops from the 1st Infantry Brigade and Air Force paratroopers. Blandon also said that "the subversives have left signs in the areas of the most important fighting that many of them were wounded and carried away." According to Blandon, this is the army's third operation of this type on Guazapa Hill this year.

Meanwhile, "Radio Venceremos," the rebels' radio station, has reported that the guerrillas have killed 20 troops in the town of Potonico, located between the departments of Cuscatlan and Chalatenango, on the banks of the Cerron Grande Dam.

San Vicente Department military sources told ACAN-EFE today that the armed forces are not conducting any counterinsurgency operations in that area right now, having merely increased their patrolling. However, the sources added that there have been clashes with guerrilla groups along the roads that lead to San Vincente. There is no report of casualties on either side.

Military sources said today that the army is conducting air patrol operations throughout the country, particularly over main highways.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Central Front Report

PA272258 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Our "Commander Melida Anaya Montes We Swear To Win" military campaign continues. Here is a report from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front.

On Friday, 22 April, in Cabanas Department, FMLN units taking part in the "Commander Melida Anaya Montes We Swear To Win" campaign, ambushed forces that were coming from the Sensuntepeque Garrison to reinforce the forces that had been defeated in Potonico, Chalatenango Department. The ambush took place at 0900 in the (Puestas del Gato) area, on the road that goes from Ilobasco to the Cerron Grande Dam, in Cabanas Department.

Bitter fighting followed the ambush for 15 minutes. The enemy had many casualties. The blocked the sending of reinforcements to Cerron Grande and Potonico. Afterward, our companeros withdrew without difficulties. The enemy has admitted nine dead, most of them from the Atlacatl Battalion. This information was provided by local and foreign news media.

Greetings to our companeros in Cabanas Departments who are hitting the dictatorship forces and who continue the "Commander Melida Anaya Montes We Swear To Win" campaign.

Aid Proposal Discussed

PA272025 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Reagan is involved in a deep debate over securing the dictatorship's last card: More than $100 million in military aid and the creation of a new special battalion trained by U.S. advisers -- all tied to the holding of elections -- which thereby appear to be the justification for military aid and the concealing of genocide.

The U.S. plan for El Salvador appears very much in contradiction with U.S. objectives. On the one hand, Reagan's allies -- Kirkpatrick and Enders -- open their mouths wide to reiterate their support for democratic government in El Salvador and therefore for the December elections as the highest expression of the strengthening and development of democracy in our country. These elections, they claim, are broad enough. As far as Reagan, Kirkpatrick and Enders are concerned, this is the solution to the Salvadoran conflict. They say, in the most simplistic and cynical way, that the only negotiation they will admit is the guerrillas agreeing to participate in the government's elections -- after, of course, surrendering their weapons.

This is the Yankee interventionists' brand new political solution. The contradictory Yankee positions are evident when Reagan accepts the condition of sending a special ambassador to El Salvador to negotiate FMLN participation in the elections. In the meantime, he is preparing for Wednesday a special meeting with the U.S. Senate and House, not to call for support for a political solution, but to pressure Congress into supporting a warlike and interventionist solution, for the approval of $110 million in military aid for the Salvadoran dictatorship. This aid would be turned into new special battalions, air force and artillery equipment, much ammunition and more military advisers, through whom efforts will be made to crush the people and their vanguard -- the FMLN.

The Yankee interventionists are not only full of contradictions, they are also full of cynicism. They see the elections as the adornment hiding their deadly plan of intervention against our fatherland.

GUATEMALA

MINISTER REPORTS 265 POLICEMEN DISCHARGED

PA271803 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2243 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Guatemala City 26 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemalan Interior Minister Col Ricardo Mendez Ruiz announced today that 265 policemen have been discharged, noting that some of them have been turned over to the special tribunals, while others were turned over the regular courts.

The minister announced yesterday that 20 officers and agents with the Technical Investigations Department (OIT), which replaced the judicial corps, were discharged. Today the minister indicated that the police purge being carried out by Gen Efrain Rios Montt's military government has affected 265 policemen, many of them charged with committing crimes ranging from robbery to blackmail attempts and kipnappings.

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT PRAISES REAGAN SPEECH TO CONGRESS

PA280151 Paris AFP in Spanish 0117 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 27 Apr (AFP) -- The Honduran Government was the first today to react to President Ronald Reagan's speech on U.S. policy in Central America. It said that it feels "deeply identified with the concepts expressed in his message to a joint session of Congress."

"The U.S. President has with impressive clarity understood the nature of the Central American problem, its increasing seriousness, and the threat that this entails for the future of freedom in the hemisphere and the world," said a Honduran Government communique. "President Roberto Suazo Cordova's government fully supports President Reagan's appeal for determined and concrete support for those nations that have chosen democracy," added the official Honduran communique.

GOVERNMENT ANSWERS NICARAGUAN INVASION CHARGES

PA271500 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Communique released by the Honduran Government, no date or place given -- read by announcer]

[Text] In view of the new story made up by Nicaragua's Sandinist military regime, according to which 3,500 guerrillas are gathering in our country to invade Nicaragua, the Honduran Government declares the following to the international public: 1. It is absolutely false that Sandinist combatants or those of any other ideology are stationed in Honduras. The allegation that they are preparing to invade our neighboring country is therefore groundless.

2. The bold charge made in this context against the governments of both Honduras and Costa Rica -- since it is being claimed that invaders will also come from that country -- is intended, among other things, to lay a smokescreen over the sinister discovery and interception of four Libyan planes loaded with 100 tons of weapons for the Managua regime, which obviously would have used them either against its neighbors or to repress its own people.

3. It is significant that this new imaginary invasion was announced only a few hours before U.S. President Ronald Reagan is to explain his Central American policy to the two U.S. congressional chambers and just as a final decision is about to be made as to whether the security aid for El Salvador will be approved. The propaganda implications of this announcement are therefore evident.

4. Finally, the democratic Honduran Government reminds the public that the much-publicized but nonexistent invasion was initially denounced without basis in November last year, then announced again for December. Although we are now in April, no invasion has taken place, at least from our territory.

Honduras is intent on promoting a foreign ministers meeting that will lay the groundwork for peace in Central America and it will continue to promote this goal despite the threats and fallacies spread by the Nicaraguan regime, which, while posing as the victim of imaginary attacks, imports weapons in massive quantities from countries like Libya, which has been publicly connected with the most grisly crimes of world terrorism.

NICARAGUAN DIPLOMAT CALLS FOR BILATERAL TALKS

PA280335 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 27 Apr 83 p 3

[Excerpts] Carlos Sequeira, acting Nicaraguan ambassador to Honduras has said that his country is prepared to repel the Somozist counterrevolutionaries or any other threat, regardless of its origin. He based his remarks on the statement that Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the government junta, made at a news conference on Monday.

Sequeira said that the communications channels with Honduras are not closed, and that Nicaragua has demonstrated this by agreeing to meet with the "Contadora Group" foreign ministers in Panama City, so that they can mediate the resolution of the problems between the two countries. "This shows that Nicaragua does seek dialogue," he added.

Suazo-Ortega Meeting

Sequeira met with Foreign Secretariat adviser Policarpo Callejas, at the Foreign Secretariat yesterday. Sequeira told him that his government is willing to have a high-level meeting with Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova.

The Nicaraguan diplomat pointed out that there is a pending invitation made a few days ago by Humberto Ortega, defense minister and chief of the Nicaraguan Army, to Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, for a high-level meeting.

"We believe that such a meeting would be an appropriate framework for the two countries to analyze their differences," the envoy said.

"We know that Honduras has proposed a multilateral analysis, while Nicaragua prefers to deal with the problems on a bilateral basis. In no way are we rejecting this global or regional proposal, but we feel that there are bilateral situations that can only be analyzed in this manner. Later these could be considered on a multilateral basis," Sequeira said.

PRESIDENT SUAZO ON DOMESTIC, AREA DEVELOPMENTS

PA221957 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2228 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Statement by Honduran President Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova in the presidential office in Tegucigalpa upon receiving Liberal Party conventioneers from Comayagua on 21 April -- recorded]

[Excerpt] I am deeply grateful to the Liberal Party of Honduras PLH, for if one holds a public post, it is not because one is a lawyer, a doctor or an engineer. I owe my current post as president to you.

I have heard a few commentaries on the radio to the effect that you are tied down. You are free, sovereign and independent, you have firm and well-defined opinions. The president of the republic will not be the president of the convention, because I don't want any conventioneer there to say that Suazo Cordova is imposing his views. You are free, sovereign and independent. I think that the PLH is a great party, with a great democratic background. You have your departmental leaders, who remain in touch with you. They orient you and I think that you should respect and support them. I am always in touch with them here in the capital.

Our biggest political resource is in the rural areas. This is why, despite the grave economic crisis, we have tried to reach the communities and to help them as much as possible through subsidies. I think that we will gradually satisfy their needs.

I take advantage of the presence of journalists (Milton Mateo), Gustavo Rubi and (Micho Bustide) here to publicly stress before the Honduran people and all of the country's organizations that the president of the republic does not have to interfere, much less exert pressure, in connection with the resolutions approved at the convention.

I know that you are aware of the current political situation in Honduras and in Central America as a whole, with subversive problems in Guatemala, a civil war in El Salvador and the establishment of a Marxist-Leninist regime in Nicaragua, as those of us who can't say differently about Nicaragua have already charged. Nicaragua claims that our Armed Forces are invading it, but that is not true. We are not invading them, though the Armed Forces have received firm orders -- and I think that we have the Honduran people's support in this -- telling them that if the Nicaraguans dare to step into a single one of our cities or to invade Honduras, they are to repel them as strongly as necessary, because no one has the right to come and bother us. We live in peace and tranquillity. Unity among the people, the government and the Armed Forces must remain firm, so that bad Hondurans -- which is what I call them -- and foreigners will not come here trying to subvert order or to stage terrorist actions in our country. We must preserve peace and tranquillity. I therefore urge you to remain united, as should be the case with our political organization.

I am confident that in the next elections for our highest authorities, the red and white flag of the great PLH will again wave victoriously, as it did on that memorable 20 April 1980 and again on 29 November 1981.

PRESIDENT SWEARS IN NEW ECONOMY SECRETARY

PA221601 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0220 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 21 Apr (DPA) -- Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova swore in Leticia Ma Tay today as the new economy and trade secretary, replacing Gustavo Alfaro. It has been reported in official circles that as of tomorrow Alfaro will return to the presieent's group of advisers on economic issues. Alfaro was the economy and trade minister for almost 14 months.

During that same period, Ma Tay was economy under secretary for industry and domestic trade matters, a post that will be filled as of today by Angel Augusto Ramos, who was also sworn in today by Suazo Cordova.

LIBERAL PARTY CONVENTION ELECTS LEADERSHIP

PA260116 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Final report in "Here's the Convention" series on Liberal Party convention]

[Excerpts] The Liberal Party convention ended at 0353 yesterday. It has been the longest convention in the past 15 years regarding the completion of its agenda. The convention elected a temporary directorate made up of (Jose Ascona Hoyo) as president and Benigno Irias as secretary. The election took over 10 hours and according to calculations made by observers, each delegate took 20 minutes to cast his vote.

The principal members of the directorate were Romualdo Bueso Penalba, Rafael Pineda Ponce, Benigno Irias, who led the debates that led to the approval of several resolutions, including a vote of solidarity and confidence for President Roberto Suazo Cordova in all the decisions that he makes in both domestic and international affairs.

Regarding the relations that the new Liberal Party central executive council would have with other parties in the country, (Rodrigo Castillo), a new member of the Liberal Party leadership, told this station: [begin recording] Well, I believe that there must be some kind of communication and coordination in may areas and harmony and respect toward other parties.

[Question] How about the splinter group?

[Answer] Well, I think that within the Liberal Party there is a free interplay of democratic ideas. As you heard during the convention, all Liberals have the right to express our thoughts and feelings, as is not the case with parties, which at certain times become (?judgmental). In the Liberal Party, we are free, sovereign and independent. [end recording] These were some of the main highlights of the Liberal Party convention:

The (Marcelino Ponce Martinex) group could not break down the pro-Azcona Rodista group's barrier and thus was left out of the new leadership. The people's Liberal Alliance [Alipo] faction split in two; the northwestern group which, through Hectir Bueso Arias and Jaime Rosenthal (Oliva) voted for Azcona, and the group from Tegucigalpa, led by brothers Carlos Roberto and Jore Arturo Reina, which maintained a position critical of the so-called progovernment Rodista group. The convention cost approximately 125,000 lempiras.

Party Infighting Analyzed

PA260130 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] An 850-word report by journalist (Benjamin Martinez) of INTERPRESS SERVICE, an Italian news agency, shows the international coverage of the convention of the Liberal Party of Honduras [PLH] which urged the Honduran people to be united in the face of a possible armed conflict with Nicaragua:

The PLH convention which began amid internal struggles, urged the people to be united in the face of a possible armed conflict with Nicaragua. Convoked to elect new party officials, the convention was held amid the infighting of the various groups disputing control of the organization whose foremost leader, President Roberto Suazo Cordova, has been forced to spend many hours meeting with the departmental delegations. In his talks with the liberal leaders, President Suazo Cordova, a 53-year-old doctor, reiterated his concern about the current Central American crisis and the political differences with Nicaragua.

We must be united because we are not willing to have the red and black flag of subversion and anarchy waving over Honduras, Suazo Cordova told the various delegations that visited him in his office in the government house in downtown Tegucigalpa. According to local observers, the president turned the government house into the virtual headquarters of the ruling PLH by receiving his fellow party members to whom he insistently stressed the need to maintain the unity of the party and all the population in these moments of crisis.

With evident divisions in its internal organization, the PLH is currently facing the dissidence of the three presidential designates who replace the Honduran president during his temporary or partial absence, and of a group of deputies who in the past few months have taken an independent line. Along with these dissident groups characteristic of the conservative wing grouped in the Rodista National Movement, the Liberals also face the critical line of open opposition of the party's social democratic section, the Peoples Liberal Alliance, [Alipo], led by brothers Carlos Roberto and Jorge Arturo Reina who are said to have links with the Socialist International.

The Alipo has seriously questioned the party's governmental policy. We Liberals have taken the political space of the National Party with a conservative attitude similar to the rightwing, Ernesto Paz, an Alipo member with a doctorate in international law, has said.

The conservative-leaning National Party of Honduras [PNH] is the country's second most important party. In the past it held political power in alliance with the military. According to Paz, the PNH has had to adopt positions criticizing the government's policy, especially its foreign policy which does not reflect the true feelings of the Honduran people. Paz said that the PLH had been an eminently doctrinaire organization but that it has lost this characteristic and has left that political space to the nationalists who have adopted more progressive attitudes.

The conservative wing of the PLH, the Rodista National Movement, personally directed by President Suazo Cordova, imposed the nomination of Jose Azcona, current communications and public works minister, for the post of president of the PLH central executive council.

The Rodistas, who take their name from the late party leader Modesto Rodas Alvarado, have seriously split and the new leaders, many of them with only 3 years of membership, hold important public administration posts. Within the party they support those who oppose the faction led by President Suazo Cordova. Although the president systematically denies the charge, the Liberal dissidents have repeatedly accused him of joining the so-called neo-Liberals and of displacing the old and proven Rodistas to give way to Suazo Cordovism which, according to local observers, is seeking his reelection as Honduran president after the Constitution is amended. The Constitution currently prohibits a citizen from being president for two consecutive terms. The convention is important for the party because if problems emerge, the internal situation could worsen and lead to a definite split. The Alipo members have several times threatened to break off from the party and form another political organization if the rules of the game are not respected in the democratic processes.

Meanwhile, this occurs at a time when Honduran-Nicaraguan relations have completely deteriorated. In recent months, the two countries have accused each other of repeated armed aggressions and intervention in their domestic affairs.

NICARAGUA

SANDINIST PRESS PREDICTS 'TOUGH' REAGAN SPEECH

PA272219 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1618 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Managua, 27 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Sandinist press today agreed in pointing out that U.S. President Ronald Reagan will "mount a big show" to launch a "slanderous attack" on the revolution in an effort to get support for "the escalated invasion" of Nicaragua. BARRICADA, the FSLN's official organ, carried the 8-column headline "Reagan's Great Show to Obtain Endorsement for Escalation."

The pro-Sandinist morning paper, EL NUEVO DIARIO, announced on its front-page: "Reagan Will Launch His Infamous Attack Today."

The opposition daily LA PRENSA stated that President Reagan's prestige will be at stake today when he explains his Central American policy before the two houses of Congress in Washington.

Reagan's appearance before the U.S. Congress will take place 2 days after Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, charged that some 4,200 anti-Sandinists "are ready" in Costa Rica and Honduras, to launch new military attacks on Nicaragua.

Ever since Daniel Ortega made these accusations on Monday, official sources have made no new reports on the movements of opposition armed forces which, according to the Managua Government, are based in Honduras and Costa Rica.

In view of the possibility that a far greater invasion than the current one might occur, the Government of National Reconstruction has given a green light for the distribution of weapons among the people to defend the "irreversible Nicaraguan revolution at any cost."

According to the Sandinist press, by speaking before a joint session of the U.S. Congress tonight, President Reagan will try to get "a blank check" from the U.S. congressmen for additional military aid for the Salvadoran regime.

He will also try to stop the investigation conducted by various U.S. congressional subcommittees and aimed at preventing "the CIA's involvement in attacks on Nicaragua." The Sandinist press predicts that Reagan's speech "will be tough."

According to the Sandinist press, the speech was initially prepared by Thomas Enders, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, but upon Reagan' request, it was revised by the National Security Council, "to make it even tougher." The Sandinists also stressed that if the U.S. policy toward Nicaragua "is extremely aggressive," then "the determination to defend the revolution is a just cause."

MANAGUA CRITICIZES REAGAN SPEECH TO CONGRESS

PA280412 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan issued 35 minutes of accusations, justifications, falsehoods, lies and slander against Nicaragua and Cuba, concerning the crisis experienced by the Central American nations.

In a speech before the two houses of the U.S. Congress, Reagan issued a series of falsehoods about the convulsed Central American situation that frankly cannot fool anyone.

He also revealed that the United States intends to maintain its centuries-old dominion over Central America and the Caribbean. He argued that the region is the backyard of the United States; therefore, it is a zone of influence which must be protected for reasons of national security.

Because Reagan would reportedly make important statements concerning the new U.S. strategy for Central America, his speech was announced with fanfare that proved to be nothing but a fanfare because what President Reagan said today is a repetition of the verbal transgressions which both he and his White House officials have maintained against Nicaragua and Cuba.

Accusations, falsehoods, lies and slander were the characteristics of the speech that Reagan delivered tonight. Perhaps the only valuable thing about his words was his recognition of the grave human rights problems of the Salvadoran people and the massive military aid that the United States has been giving to the Salvadoran regime.

CLASHES, CASUALTIES REPORTED IN ZELAYA NORTE

PA271935 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Eight counterrevolutionaries died in clashes with Sandinist forces in the area of the Coco and Waspuk Rivers, in northern Zelaya. The clashes between the Sandinist troops and the former Somozist guardsmen took place on 22 April and 24 April. Five counterrevolutionaries died in one of the clashes, which took place between the Waspuk and Coco Rivers, about 50 km from Waspam.

The other clash occurred in San Lucas, 1 km north of San Juan del Rio Coco. Three counterrevolutionaries were killed in this second clash. In both of these clashes, the Sandinist Front recovered weapons and other war supplies.

STATION COMMENTARY ASSAILS U.S. 'LIES', POLICIES

FL271710 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 27 Apr 83

["Revolutionary Armed Forces and Interior Ministry Combatants Political Information" program commentary]

[Text] The zeal to justify its hysterical arms race and warmongering policies, has driven the Reagan administration to making up stories and lies which, although comical and ridiculous, still have the effect calculated by the residents of the White House. This an old practice on the part of the imperialists.

It should be enough to recall, for example, how, during the mercenary invasion against Cuba in Playa Giron, U.S. President John F. Kennedy himself said that his government had nothing to do with that attack. But, despite the defeats and exposures they have suffered, the rulers of the United States have not stopped resorting to such cynical methods.

It is well known that Washington launched a campaign against Grenada as soon as the New Jewel Movement, under the leadership of Maurice Bishop, came into power and implemented a process of change for the benefit of the people in that tiny island of the Caribbean. Grenada, a country whose main economic resource is tourism, is building a civilian international airport to improve and develop that resource. Now it turns out that, in the Yankees, opinion, th airport is being built for military purposes and represents a danger to the interests of the United States. What are the objectives of the fascist-leaning U.S. rulers in this matter? In the first place, to denigrate Grenada and create conditions for its aggressive plans against that country. In the second place, to try to install mistrust and fear in the rest of the countries in the area in order to isolate that Caribbean island.

Another example is the stepped-up aggression by Washington against Nicaragua. They say, among other things, that Nicaragua is arming itself beyond the real needs for its defense and that it also constitutes a threat to the United States and other nations of Central America. President Reagan himself recently said that his government was concerned over the military potential of Nicaragua. It appears that he forgot that phrase a short while later and in other statements he did not hide that the objective of his administration is to overthrow the Sandinist people's regime. There is growing proof of the efforts of the U.S. Government to accomplish this goal. Presently, the homeland of Sandino has come under armed attack by units of former Somozist guards, trained and armed by the CIA on U.S. soil and in Honduras -- a country that acts as a trampoline to organize them and send then into Nicaraguan territory with the help of the Honduran Army.

In other words, the United States organizes, finances and leads an attack on Nicaragua, imposes an economic blockade against that country as it did against Cuba over 20 years ago, practices airbourne espionage over that Central American country in violation of standing international laws and norms and, besides all that, it does not not want Nicaragua to prepare or defend itself. Apparently, Reagan and his cohorts fail to learn from history and believe that with lies, blockades, provocations and aggressions they are going to stop the people and the revolutionary process which the people are leading.

Cuba became free almost 25 years ago. Nicaragua did it almost 4 years ago. Grenada is marching down the path to full independence. Suriname is defending its right to sovereignty and self-determination. El Salvador is the scene of the people's fight for liberty.

In Guatemala, the struggle against oppression is growing. And apparently, the imperialists fail to understand that they are dealing with a historical and irreversible process of the masses, before which its arrogance and cynicism are of no avail.

HAVANA SEES RAMEY AFB REACTIVATION AS NEW THREAT

FL271450 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] The United States is planning to reactivate Ramey Air Force Base, located in western Puerto Rico. This base is capable of accomodating the takeoff and landing of strategic bombers and airborne espionage aircraft. The announcement has come amid the Solid Shield 83 military maneuvers being held in the Caribbean.

Ramey Air Force Base is one of the 34 military installations which the United States has in the Caribbean and one of 10 it has in Puerto Rico. Ramey had a decisive role in the supply of provisions to the coupist Dominican group of 1965. From that base, the United States contributed to the crushing of the Quisqueya constitutionalist uprising in April of that year. During the war of aggression against Vietnam, Ramey served the B-52 strategic bombers and KC-135 tankers. Ramey was partially deactivated in the decade of the 1970's and was converted into a recreation center for Air Force officers.

As part of the warmongering policies of the Reagan administration, Ramey Air Force Base will be rehabilitated to increase the threat in the Caribbean.

HAVANA VIEWS HOUSE DEBATE ON RADIO MARTI PROJECT

FL271507 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] News from Washington reveals that the anti-Cuban radio station, Radio Marti, project has been approved by a subcommittee of the House of Representatives of the United States. The approved measure constitutes the first step in the legislative process the project should go through this year.

The debate in the House Subcommittee on International Procedures regarding the implementation of the plan to initiate broadcasts, indicates that President Ronald Reagan's initiative is still the subject of intense controversy. Last year the project to establish the station was approved by the full House but failed to pass the Senate because of opposition by several senators.

In an effort to overcome the resistance expressed during the previous debate, the White House modified its proposal this time and submitted legislation which restricts broadcasts to the frequency currently being used for a special broadcast of the Voice of America to the region.

The $7-million radio station project will be managed by the Board of International Broadcasting, an entity established by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency to supervise the Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty stations.

The strongest opposition to this project came from Congressman George Crockett, representative from Michigan, who said Radio Marti will only further deteriorate the situation between Cuba and the United States. The congressman from New York, Stephen Solarz, maintained that instead of backing projects such as Radio Marti, the Reagan administration should be making an effort to look into the possibility of resolving our problems amicably.

COMMENTARY ON COOPERATION, TIES WITH USSR

PA271955 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The political, social, economic, cultural, educational, military, scientific and other ties between Cuba and the USSR continue to expand. In line with these ties, the most important intergovernmental economic and technical cooperation agreement, in terms of the volume and scope of the aid involved, will materialize during the current 5-year period.

Such agreements have enabled Cuba to achieve new economic successes as early as 1982. As a result of much organizational and technical work, more than 60 plans were either totally or partially implemented.

In the energy field, for instance, two 100-megawatt units were set in motion in the thermoelectric plants at Mariel and Rente, increasing the power potential of those two plants to 600 and 300 megawatts respectively. In this manner, the national energy system can now generate over 2 million kilowatts. In 1958, a year before the victory of the revolution, the thermoelectric plants operating at the time generated a scant 400,000 kilowatts.

Other plans, which are intended to make more effective use of existing facilities and to improve energy supplies to those Cuban regions where energy is deficient, are also materializing. Soviet cooperation is also vital in developing the nickel industry. The nickel plant currently under construction in Punta Gorda, with the capacity to produce 30,000 tons per year, is the largest project underway in Cuba during the current 5-year period.

As for long-term special programs, the Soviet Union will continue to participate in Cuba's overall sugar development, supply us with equipment to construct 11 new plants and sugar mills, to reconstruct an additional 23 mills, to modernize the transport service and to automate the sugar mills.

Thanks to Soviet collaboration and to the bold effort of the constructors, a textile plant with the capacity to produce 80 million square feet of material per year will be dedicated on 26 July, the 30th anniversary of the Moncada feat. This plant, which will function in Santiago de Cuba, will enable the textile industry to increase cloth production by 50 percent. The (?balance) spinning mill, with the capacity to manufacture 15,000 tons of yard in 12 months will be ready next year in Santiago de Cuba.

Suffice it to say that the total volume of Soviet cooperation with Cuba during this 5-year period is 1.8 times higher than that of the previous period, thus demonstrating the vast work that the planning organizations in both countries have had to perform and will have to continue to perform.

Furthermore, the Soviet Union will continue to cooperate with Cuba in vital areas such as the oil, chemical and food industries, the manufacture of machinery, the fields of ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, transportation and communications, the agricultural and livestock sectors and geological prospecting.

As can be seen, a coordinated economic policy will encourage rapprochement among the two countries' economic organizations so as to lay the technical-material groundwork for socialism in Cuba. This will be achieved by fulfilling the 5-year plans, from the current one to the one which will be completed in the year 2000.

The encouragement and aid given to Cuba's economic development, a fundamental indicator of any country's progress, is one of the pillars on which bilateral relations have been based.

The generous and selfless aid given by Lenin's homeland is decisively present in these projects, in the modernization and technological re-equipment of the major branches of our economy. This is why relations between Cuba and the Soviet Union continue to be a model of truly internationalist and revolutionary ties.

DEL VALLE LEADS DELEGATION TO MOZAMBIQUE

FL261809 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1502 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Sergio del Valle Jimenez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, has arrived in Mozambique at the head of a Cuban delegation invited to the Fourth Congress of the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front], which opened today in Maputo.

The Cuban visitors were met at Mabalane International Airport by Frelimo Political Bureau members Joaquim Chissano and Mario Machungo, among other officials of the party and Government of Mozambique. Upon arriving in Maputo, Del Valle expressed his deep satisfaction in stepping on Mozambican soil to open contacts with that heroic nation of revolutionary fighters and workers. After leaving the air terminal, the head of the Cuban delegation was accompanied to his residence by Major General (Joaquim Munepe), with whom he held introductory talks. The chief of the Cuban delegation announced in Maputo that he was the bearer of a warm and fraternal greeting from Fidel to top Mozambican leader Samora Machel.

Sergio del Valle Jimenez said he was certain that the fourth congress would achieve great success, since from it would come the economic and political guidelines aimed at improving the development of the new socialist society of Mozambique. Del Valle then cited the critical situation prevailing in the southern African region as a result of the aggressive nature of the South African racist regime. In view of that situation, Sergio del Valle stressed that the Frelimo congress is of utmost importance since the destiny of Mozambique will rest mainly upon the clear and precise policies outlined by that forum.

CORRECTION TO SR-71 OVERFLIGHT PROTEST ITEM

The following correction pertains to the item published under the subhead "Anti-Imperialist Tribunal Protest," in the 27 April Latin America DAILY REPORT, page Q 1, in the last line of the subslug:

...by Cuba on 26 April 1983...(correcting date)

CORRECTION TO NONALIGNED NUCLEAR ENERGY MEETING

The following correction pertains to the item entitled "Nonaligned Nuclear Energy Meeting Begins," published in the 14 April Latin America DAILY REPORT, page Q 1, third paragraph, line one:

...on that idea. [Begin third paragraph] Fidel Castro Diaz, executive secretary of... (changing name from "Ruz" to "Diaz.")

CORRECTION TO CUBAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM CITED

The following correction pertains to the item entitled "Cuban Program Cited," published in the 14 April Latin America DAILY REPORT, page Q 2, fourth paragraph, line three:

...Investigaciones Nucleares] of Dubna in the Soviet...(changing name ("Duna") to "Dubna")

COLOMBIA

FARC COLUMN STORMS TOWN, KILLS INSPECTOR

PA271953 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Text] Cali -- A column of the so-called Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia stormed the inspector's office in San Alfonso, Balboa Municipality today and riddled the [word indistinct] inspector with bullets.

The guerrilla raid was confirmed here by authoritative 3d Military Brigade spokesmen, who said that the column was composed of some 30 men. The murdered inspector was identified as Beimar Enrique Gomez Garces. The sources added that the guerrillas put him up against a wall and fired at him at close range.

REPORT ON JOINT COLOMBIA-SFRY COMMUNIQUE

For a 14 April Belgrade BORBA report in Serbo-Croatian on the joint communique signed during the visit of Vidoje Zarkovic, member of the SFRY Presidency, to Colombia, see the Yugoslavia section of the 26 April Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT, page I 2.

GUYANA

REPORT ON TOASTS DURING VISIT OF SFRY'S ZARKOVIC

For a Belgrade TANJUG in English report on the toasts proposed at the state dinner in honor of the visit of Vidoje Zarkovic member of the SFRY Presidency, see the Yugoslavia section of the 26 April Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT, page I 4.

TANJUG REPORTS ON SFRY-GUYANA COMMUNIQUE

For a 19 April TANJUG report on the communique on official talks between Vidoje Zarkovic, member of the SFRY Presidency, and President Forbes Burnham, during Zarkovic's visit to Guyana, see the Yugoslavia section of the 27 April Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT, page I 12.